



Home of the Tigers

Leonard ISD
Superintendent Brad Maxwell
#1 Tiger Alley
Leonard, TX 75452

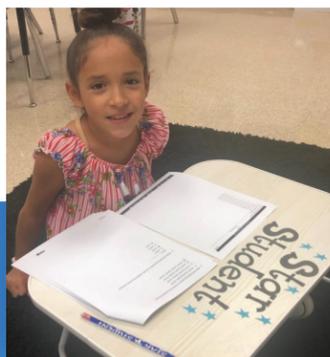
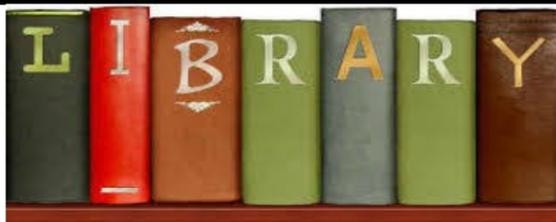
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www.leonardisd.net

Parents and Community
Members of
LISD SCHOOL DISTRICT

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businesses - they support our
school.

LHS Media Center Open and Ready to Take Care of Business

- ◆ Over 5000 books on the shelves ready to be checked out and enjoyed.
- ◆ E-Books with easy access.
- ◆ Study guides for the ACT, SAT, and ASVAB.
- ◆ Multiple online databases available for our students.
- ◆ Research materials.
- ◆ And much more!



Left - Third grade LES student, Madai Lomeli, makes good use of her newly earned privilege of sitting at the Star Student desk after earning the title in Mrs. Kacie Maxwell's class.



Counselor Corner

October 1, 2019 - FAFSA Opens (Stay tuned for FAFSA updates/information)

October 16, 2019 - PSAT/NMSQT for Sophomores and Juniors and PSAT 8/9 for Freshman that morning

November 7, 2019 - Pre-ACT for Sophomores

See Mrs. Littrell for information on an ACT prep opportunity at Celeste HS.

Please contact Mrs. Littrell if you have any questions.



Leonard Independent School District

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Leonard Independent School District will partner with parents and the community to create life-long learners who are socially prepared to be productive citizens. We are proud to provide a safe, respectful, learning environment where all children are challenged through stimulating learning experiences to achieve their dreams. At LISD we are investing in the future of our students.



My name is Cody Plake and I am the new high school principal at Leonard High School. I am originally from East Texas. I have been married for 15 years to my wife Shana and we moved to Metroplex 13 years ago. We have an eight-year-old daughter and her name is McKinley. She enjoys dance, so we spend our weekends at her dance competitions. In 2001, I had the opportunity to coach basketball. I was blessed to have coached at Evadale High School under Byron Terrier. We went on to win the Class A State Championship and Texas Cup. I also coached in the 2002 school year at Evadale and we made the playoffs. In 2003, I had the opportunity to coach at St. Anne Catholic School in Beaumont, TX. I coached football and basketball at St. Anne. In 2004, I began my official career as a teacher/coach in Education. I was a teacher/coach at Spurger High School in Spurger, TX for two years where I taught Elementary Physical Education & World Geography. I also coached basketball, track, cross country, & golf while in Spurger. In 2006, my wife and I moved to Wylie, TX. I began my career with Wylie ISD by teaching and coaching at Burnett Junior High. I taught Special Education while at Burnett Junior High. I also coached volleyball, basketball, & track. In 2007, I began teaching and coaching at Wylie East High School. This was the year the school opened and I assisted the opening of the high school. While at Wylie East High School, I taught Special Education, ISS, World Geography, World

History, US History, Government, Economics, and also coached basketball, football, track, and softball. In 2012, I began my career as a principal where I had originally started out my career at Cooper Junior High as an assistant principal. I held the position of principal at Cooper Jr. High for three years. From there I returned to Wylie East High School in the role of assistant principal and remained for four years. I accepted the position of high school principal at Leonard High School in the summer of 2019, and I have really enjoyed coming back to the small school environment. Leonard High School and its community has been very welcoming to me. The staff and student body at LHS are fantastic. I have enjoyed learning about the many traditions and background of Leonard. I look forward to working with Leonard ISD and helping to create a learning atmosphere that is second to none. I am currently pursuing my Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Texas A&M University - Texarkana. I currently hold a Masters of Education in Special Education from Texas Tech University, a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Sam Houston State University, and a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Lamar University. I follow all Texas Tech and Texas A&M sports. I like to attend at least one game of each university throughout the school year. I also follow the Cowboys, Saints, and Mavs. When I am not watching these teams, I also enjoy reading and working around the house. #GOTIGERS

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Leonard ISD Police Department News

With the start of the 2019-20 school year, we would like to share information about our Leonard ISD Police Department with you. The Leonard ISD PD is a fully accredited law enforcement agency with the authority to enforce state and local laws. Jurisdiction for the department is all territory within the geographical boundaries of the District and all property, real or personal, outside the geographical boundaries of the District that is owned, leased or rented or otherwise under the District's control. This allows the LISD PD to travel with students or school groups to other venues and provide police services within the state of Texas. When outside of the District boundaries, the primary function of the LISD PD will be to secure the safety of Leonard ISD students, staff and property.

We are excited to have Brian Scott as our Leonard ISD Police Chief. He has been a police officer since 2001. He has served as a patrol officer, traffic officer, community services officer, school resource officer (SRO) and is currently the LISD Chief of Police. Before joining Leonard ISD, he served with the Rockwall Police Department and then the Frisco Police Department as an SRO. During that time, he served at Heritage High School, Roach Middle School and Ashley Elementary School as their SRO. His years of working in schools at FISD has allowed him to serve over 3500 students and 350 staff members.

Some of Chief Scott's skills/certifications include: Master Peace Officer Certification, TCOLE Certified Instructor, School Based Law Enforcement Certified, Mental Health Officer, Texas Association of School Resource Officers Member, National Association of School Resource Officers Member and Crisis Intervention Team.



LJHS Initiates Positive Characteristics Program

We are starting a fun initiative at LJH to help promote positive characteristics in our students. The HOUSE system was created by Dr. Ron Clark. Our staff leadership team on our campus has met and tweaked the system for LJH.

Our students and staff spun the color wheel to determine which HOUSE that they would belong to while in LJH. The houses will provide our students and staff with an opportunity to compete with each other in the areas of academics, attendance, behavior, participation in school activities, and service to the school and others. Each House will earn points for these things and the leading House will be rewarded each six weeks. In addition, at the end of the year, the winning House with the most points accumulated throughout the year will receive a special reward trip. We are very excited about this fun initiative and the opportunities it will provide to our students.



The Houses are named based on the 6 characteristics that LISD chose a few years ago as important character qualities in our students.

- T- Teamwork, House of KOMKAR (Orange)
- I- Integrity, House of KULIKE (Yellow)
- G- Greatness, House of Grandeza (Red)
- E- Effort, House of DAGZAG (Green)
- R- Respect, House of HESHIMA (Purple)
- S- Spirit, House of ANDA (Blue)

Mr. Maxwell

Back-to-School Message



The 2019-2020 school year is well underway, and we are looking forward to numerous educationally-enriching opportunities for our students. We are excited to have many new families joining the Leonard ISD community and are glad to have you as part of our school family. We hope that our returning students and families had a wonderful summer and are energized for a great school year. At LISD, we are striving to make each school year full of meaningful experiences to help prepare our students for the future.

With the new school year brings some new changes and faces to Leonard ISD. LISD is excited to have re-established our Leonard ISD Police Department. Chief Brian Scott heads our LISD PD and is making visits to our campuses and attending Leonard ISD events. His jurisdiction is the entire Leonard ISD school district boundaries as well as anywhere our buses, school vehicles, and students travel when attending school events outside of Leonard ISD. Please see the article in this newsletter for more about Chief Scott and the Leonard ISD Police Department.

Leonard Elementary School is off to a great start. We currently have 277 students in pre-kindergarten through third grade at this campus. This school year we were able to extend our pre-k class times to a complete full-day. Now all of our classes begin at 8:00a.m. and dismiss at 3:30p.m. We have added new staff members Jacki Dennis, Suzanne Mendez, and Anissa Mason to our campus team. Our elementary teachers and staff do a tremendous job of making school a fun, rewarding place for our kids. Please consider joining the Leonard Elementary PTL to help stay involved with many fun activities throughout the school year.

At Leonard Intermediate School, we have 114 fourth and fifth graders joining us this year for some wonderful learning times. You will find our caring teachers and staff working diligently at this campus to make these years exhilarating for our kids. Our new staff member at LIS this year is Frances Thompson. When visiting our campus, you will notice our new security lobby added to enhance student safety. Our students and teachers are looking forward to an awesome school year at Leonard Intermediate.

Next door at Leonard Junior High, you will

find 215 sixth, seventh and eighth graders taking part in a variety of activities and learning opportunities. Our dedicated teachers and staff understand the important roles they play in the lives of our youth and are proud to help our kids maximize their potential. New staff at LJH include - Rebecca Duncan, Chelsea Green, Amanda Humphrey, Jerrett Jones, Rodney Machaka, and Patti Thomason. LJH is starting a new "House System" this year. Please see the article in this newsletter for more exciting information about this. This campus also has a new security lobby, so now all four LISD campuses have security foyers in place. Please remember to bring a driver's license or photo ID when visiting any of our campuses.

Our team of devoted faculty and staff at Leonard High School strives to ensure student success each day. We currently have a total of 251 freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors at LHS. New staff members include our high school principal - Cody Plake, along with James Beebe, Amy Neville, and Lisa Toohey. LHS offers up to 24 hours of college dual credit courses for our juniors and seniors in our partnership with Grayson College. As an added motivator to encourage success, LISD covers the cost of the college textbooks and reimburses the full tuition if a student makes an A in the dual credit class and implements a sliding reimbursement scale for a B or C. It is quite possible for our students to graduate from LHS with 24 college hours with little or no cost to the parents. Now that is a deal!

LISD would like to encourage all parents/guardians to utilize our School Messenger Notification System. This is the official notification system for the district. We currently send campus and district messages out through phone calls and e-mails with this system. We now have the opportunity to send text messages for alerts regarding school delays/closings, school events and safety alerts. You should have received a letter recently regarding how to Opt-In to receive texts. If you did not, you can text the word YES to 67587 to start receiving texts. This information is also available at www.leonardisd.net. Leonard ISD has also implemented a new Bullying Reporting System Tool called STOPit. It is an anonymous reporting tool that is available for all campuses. To find out more about this and how to make a report, please visit our district homepage and select Bullying Reporting from the Quick Link located on the column on the left side of the

page. As you can see, there is a lot going on in LISD. An important goal we have is to work together to provide all Leonard ISD students the best educational environment possible. It is vital to have positive communication between the school and home as we all strive to make Leonard ISD better each day. We encourage our families and community members to join us in our #FriendsOfLISD social media campaign. While social media platforms can help us distribute information about our campuses and district quickly, there are times when information sent out by others not employed by the district is inaccurate or even untrue. When this happens, it causes concern for our parents, students and staff. With a variety of social media options available today, many of our junior high and high school students see this information shared or reposted that may not be completely accurate. This information often filters back into the campuses which causes distractions and disrupts the educational environment for our students and staff.

This is where you can help us. If you have a question or concern about an issue regarding your child, a campus, or the district, please contact the teacher, coach, sponsor, or administrator with your concern via a phone call, e-mail or by scheduling a meeting. Please allow us the opportunity to answer or clarify the issue. This mode of communication helps tremendously as many of the questions or concerns can be addressed firsthand instead of circulating on social media. While school employees can't share confidential information regarding other students, staff, and in some cases certain protected issues that arise due to state and federal law, we can talk to you about your child or about a concern you have that you need to bring to our attention. We believe the school is the heart of our community, and while we have many great things going on at our campuses on a daily basis, we also understand the importance of communicating when issues do arise that need to be addressed. Please support #FriendsOfLISD by helping us all to better communicate when concerns arise by visiting us in person, over the phone, or by e-mail, instead of posting or reposting through social media channels that may not be reflecting accurate information. Thank you for your support of Leonard ISD and we look forward to working with you throughout the 2019-2020 school year.